

## Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, August 28, 1875, with transcript

Letter from Miss Mabel G. Hubbard to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Cambridge, Saturday, Aug. 28th (1875) Dear Mr. Bell:

I received your note yesterday afternoon. I seem to have given you so little save pain and worry that I am glad to have been the cause of some happy hours to you Thursday. I hope at least that even if this comes to nothing no act of mine will force you to look back upon it as another "sore subject."

I thank you for the trust in me that made you release me from my promise about your mother's letter. I could not help telling my own dear Mother all the letter said concerning me, it was so kind and generous and made me wish to know the writer for she must be a good and lovely lady. I hope you will go soon to see her and explain everything, it makes me unhappy to think of causing so much trouble between her and her only son.

But I kept the allusion to your past to myself. I think there are subjects in a man or woman's life which none but the wife or husband should know. If I ever stand in the former relation to you I should like to know what your mother's words meant, for I believe the only sure ground of lasting affection in married life is perfect confidence in and openness toward each other. I do not now ask to know your secret, for your whole behavior to me this summer has been so open and honorable that I am sure if there was anything in your past life I ought to know you would inform me of it. If however you should want to tell me anything your confidence shall not be misplaced.

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I thank you also for leaving me free to act as I think best at any time. I hope you will never repent doing so.

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I will keep your mother's letter till you come next Monday.

Very sincerely your friend, Mabel G. Hubbard.